

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 059009

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: AMGT, PFOR, HA

SUBJECT: POLICY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REVIEW: SUPPLE-
MENTARY COUNTRY SPECIFIC GUIDANCE FOR HAITI

REF: (A) STATE 45461 (B) STATE 38356 (C) STATE 38338

1. DEPARTMENT VIEWS PRINCIPAL US INTERESTS IN HAITI AS
HUMANITARIAN -- HELPING TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY IN THIS
POOREST COUNTRY OF THE HEMISPHERE -- AND THE OBSERVANCE
OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. IN VIEW EMBASSY'S RECENT MESSAGES RAISING POLICY
ISSUES ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE EFFORT IN HAITI, WE ASSUME
PARM WILL ADDRESS QUESTION OF APPROPRIATE LEVEL AND
CONTENT OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC AID TO HAITI, INCLUDING
PL-480, TO FURTHER OUR OBJECTIVE OF HELPING THE RURAL
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POOR. POST'S RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD FACTOR IN DEPARTMENT'S
RESPONSES TO RECENT EMBASSY MESSAGES.

3. ON OUR HUMAN RIGHTS INTEREST, THE DEPARTMENT WELCOMES
EMBASSY PROPOSALS ON COURSES OF ACTION TO ASSIST IMPROVED
OBSERVANCE OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI.
DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE TAKING

PLACE.

AT THE SAME TIME,
IT APPEARS POSSIBLE FOR HAITI TO REGISTER FURTHER IMPROVE-
MENTS IN THE OBSERVANCE OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS, AS
OUTLINED IN PROPOSED HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY PAPER FORWARDED
WITH HEAVNER/AMBASSADOR LETTER OF FEB 25. PARM SHOULD
ADDRESS THE SUGGESTED HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY.

4. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF HOW
US POLICY CAN BEST ACCOMMODATE BOTH HUMANITARIAN INTEREST
IN HAITI'S POOR AND OUR HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS. CAN OUR
INTERESTS IN DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS BE MAXIMIZED
AND MANAGED SO AS TO AVOID CONFLICT? HOW SHOULD WE
DESIGN OUR AID PROGRAM TO BEST MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF
SECTION 116 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT?

5. IN THE SAME VEIN, REQUEST ASSESSMENT OF HOW THE SMALL
SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR HAITI CAN BE JUSTIFIED IN
LIGHT OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS INTERESTS. CONTINUED USEFULNESS
OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED, AS WELL AS THE
COSTS OF ELIMINATING IT. MIGHT LIMITING SECURITY
ASSISTANCE TO SEARCH AND RESCUE AND MARINE SAFETY BE MORE
ANNOYING TO THE GOH THAN CUTTING IT OUT ALTOGETHER? HOW
WOULD THE GOH REACT TO ELIMINATION OF THE PROGRAM IN THE
CONTEXT OF GENERAL REDUCTIONS IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN
THE HEMISPHERE?

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